



The Probation Journal

Fall 2001, Volume 2, Issue 3
A Massachusetts Probation Service Publication



Massachusetts Probation Commissioner John J. O'Brien presents plaque to Worcester County Juvenile Court Support Staff employee **Khuyen Tran**, one of the 33 P.O. Recognition Week Award recipients at the agency's first State House ceremony this summer. See Page 3 for full story.

P.O. II and Substance Abuse Specialist Training Curriculum

In November, the Training Division will offer the following one-day courses specifically designed for Probation Officer II employees:

"Working Effectively with Crime Victims" will examine the Victim Rights Law of 1995, how to apply it to everyday casework and ways to properly respond to requests for information. Victim Services experts will also talk about how P.O.s can give support and assistance to victims and survivors.

"Interstate Compact." This workshop will offer training on the rules, regulations, and procedures required in processing Interstate Transfer cases.

This course is open to all Probation Officers:

"Substance Abuse Specialist Training:" Graduates will learn to make verbal and written substance abuse assessments as requested by the court upon course completion. Participants must pass a written exam with a minimum score of 80 percent and complete a special field project requiring three visits to different treatment facilities of their choosing.

Professional Development Opportunities for P.O.s

By Coria A. Holland

The Training Division of the Office of the Commissioner of Probation will provide some of the most up-to-date information on crime trends and probation issues found in course catalogues this fall.

"A Primer on Oxycontin," "Cybercrime: The Predatory Side of the Online World," and "Adolescents and Domestic Violence" are among the many offerings available to Probation Officers during the fall term this year, October through December 2001. See full listing of workshops in Fall Training Schedule column on the right.

New to the Training Schedule lineup are two courses specifically designed for Probation Officer II employees. Descriptions of the courses, "Working Effectively with Crime Victims," and "Interstate Compact," are featured in the Specialist Training Curriculum on the left.

Probation Officer II employees will have first preference on enrollment in these courses which will be offered in November and again in the Spring. Information — including dates, times and location — will be sent to Chief Probation Officers a month in advance. Probation Officer II employees may also satisfy their annual training requirement by attending other workshops sponsored by the Commissioner's Office.

To qualify as a Probation Officer II, an applicant must have 15 years of work experience as a Probation Officer and have completed at least 40 hours of training during the past three years.

In addition to the P.O. II Courses, a week-long Substance Abuse Specialist training course will be offered Oct. 22-26.

Fall Training Schedule

October

Substance Abuse Specialist Training
Defensive Disengagement Tactics
Pharmacology: A through Z
First Aid/CPR
Sex Offender Registry Board
Immigration Issues

November

Street Drugs: A Demonstration
First Aid/CPR
Working Effectively with Crime Victims
Defensive Disengagement Tactics
Interstate Compact
Hepatitis C: A Hidden Danger
Primer on Oxycontin
Adolescents & Domestic Violence
Spanish Language Skills for P.O.s
Advanced Dispute Intervention

December

Dealing with Aggressive Dogs
Defensive Disengagement Tactics
First Aid/CPR
Suicide Prevention & Intervention
Substance Abuse Specialist
Pre-Sentence Investigations



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Cosmo, a dog owned by Holyoke District Court Probation Officer Darcy Sullivan, models anti-violence banner.

Inside This Issue

Letter from the Commissioner	Page 2
P.O. Recognition Awards Ceremony at Statehouse	Page 3
Inside Probation	Page 4
P.O. Profile	Page 5
Quotables	Page 6

Letter from the Commissioner



Commissioner John J. O'Brien

Dear Employees of the Massachusetts Probation Service:

Chief Probation Officers from across the state met to discuss effective probation practice, review both local and national trends in the field, and learn about new initiatives to enhance the operation of the Massachusetts Probation Service at the first statewide Chief Probation Officers Conference in more than a decade.

Nationally-renowned Correctional Program Specialist Richard J. Faulkner and International Criminal Justice Expert Don Evans, President of the Canadian Training Institute and International Community Corrections Association, served as keynote speakers at the two-day conference last week.

Faulkner and Evans presented an overview on National & International Perspectives on Probation and Community Corrections. The two-day event featured sessions on Warrant Protocol Analysis, and updates on Electronic Monitoring, Community Corrections, and Community Service.

Chief Probation Officers are not the only Probation employees who had the chance to learn about new initiatives and focus on ways to improve our agency. The Training Division is offering a whole new roster of educational workshops and opportunities featured on the front page of this issue of The Probation Journal.

The Substance Abuse Specialist Training is one course probation officers in every court should enroll in. This week-long training will provide employees with the necessary tools to conduct verbal and written substance abuse assessments as requested by the court. These skills are crucial in dealing with probationers, 85 percent of whom abuse drugs and/or alcohol.

Whether returning to the classroom or witnessing the changing colors of the leaves, Autumn symbolizes transformation and growth. I encourage you to consider the many opportunities for educational development offered by our agency through our Training Division.

Sincerely,

John J. O'Brien, Commissioner
Office of the Commissioner of Probation

COMMISSIONER JOHN J. O'BRIEN

DEPUTIES

**John F. Cremens, Jr.,
First Deputy**

**Elizabeth V. Tavares, Esq.,
Second Deputy**

**Anthony C. Sicuso,
Legal Counsel**

**Stephen T. Bocko
Research and Training**

**William H. Burke, III,
Western Region**

**James P. Concannon,
Field Services - Interstate Compact**

**Paul Lucci,
Field Services - Programs and
EMP Program**

**Francis M. Wall,
Liaison to the Office of Community
Corrections - Field Services**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Massachusetts Probation Service is at the center in the delivery of justice through investigations, community supervision of offenders/litigants, diversion of appropriate offenders from institutional sentences, reduction in crime, mediations, service to victims, and the performance of other appropriate community service functions.

MASSACHUSETTS PROBATION SERVICE EMPLOYEES HONORED AT FIRST STATEHOUSE CEREMONY

More than 100 friends and family members of nine probation officers and eight support staff filled the Great Hall at the State House on July 17 to honor the Massachusetts Probation Service employees who were recognized by Commissioner of Probation John J. O'Brien for going beyond the call of duty. The State House celebration, one of many festivities held in the Commonwealth during National Probation Officer's Recognition Week (July 15-21), was the agency's first awards ceremony in the history of the Massachusetts Probation Service.

The annual celebration of National Probation Officer's Recognition Week is the Massachusetts counterpart to National Probation, Parole and Community Supervision, a special observance introduced by the American Probation and Parole Association, a Lexington, Kentucky-based organization for community corrections professionals.

National Probation Officer Recognition Week in Massachusetts is an opportunity to "celebrate the profession and educate the public about the role of probation in the criminal justice system," according to John J. O'Brien, Commissioner of Probation. National Probation Officer Recognition did not end in July. Special activities and events are scheduled to take place in probation departments statewide through early August.

Massachusetts Probation Service employees from 53 of the 105 courts attended the July event. Representatives Mary Jane Simmons, Thomas M. Stanley, and Marian Walsh participated in the ceremony. Also in attendance were several legislators, chief probation officers and members of the Massachu-

setts Retired Chief Probation Officers Association. State Representative Kevin Fitzgerald; Senator Pamela P. Resor; Representative Michael J. Coppola; and Rep. Cele Hahn were all present. The State House honorees represented 25 of the 105 statewide courts.

"These men and women work hard every day to protect the community while providing important resources to offenders to help them address the challenging issues they face and to assist them in becoming more productive citizens," said Commissioner O'Brien.

Probation Officer honorees included Paula Vizard of Suffolk Superior Court and Joan Rockett of Norfolk Superior Court; Vincent L. Godwin of New Bedford District Court and Thomas P. Todd of Dorchester District Court; Margaret Brodeur of Barnstable Juvenile Court, James Skiffington of Hampden Juvenile Court and Denise Aguero of Norfolk Juvenile Court; and Carmen Ayerve of Essex Probate and Family Court and Bette Babinski of Franklin Probate and Family Court.

Among the Support Staff honorees were Olga Gonzalez of Essex Superior Court; Nancy Anne Capone of Barnstable Superior Court; Mary Dembro of Chelsea District Court and Barbara A. Ellis of Ayer District Court; Khuyen Tran of Worcester County Juvenile Court and Charlotte Bolus of Berkshire Juvenile Court; and Janet M. Caplette of Hampden Probate and Family Court and Olida Arnoe of Barnstable Probate and Family Court.

Continued to page 8

HAPPENINGS

The **62nd Annual Training Institute of the New England Council on Crime and Delinquency**, "A Systematic Approach to Rehabilitation," will take place at the North Conway Grand Hotel in North Conway, NH October 28-31.

The **Roxbury District Court Probation Department** hosted its first Probation Day Open House on Sept. 21. Information was provided on criminal, court room and probation procedures. Also featured were the programs and services of the court.

Massachusetts Probation Service employees from the Middlesex County area participated in a Benefit Flag Football Spectacular, featuring The North Cambridge Crime Task Force All Stars vs. The All Pro Patriots Celebrity Team. The game took place Saturday, Sept. 15, at Russell Field in Cambridge. Former New England Patriots players competed against the Massachusetts Probation Service's very own **Cambridge District Court Probation Officer Ronald Layne** and **Associate Probation Officer Jeffrey Rideout** and **Middlesex Superior Court Probation Officers Omar Chapman, Bill Gosman, Paul Cashman and Angelo Gomez**. Local celebrities on the Cambridge Task Force team included Mayor **Anthony Galluccio**, School Committee Member **Joe Grassi** and members of the police, sheriff's office and the Task Force.

Charting the Course for Community Justice, the 26th Annual Training Institute of the American Probation and Parole Association, took place this summer in St. Paul, MN.

The Supreme Judicial Court Judicial Youth Corps hosted an Appreciation Day Reception at the Suffolk County Courthouse in late August.

Franklin/Hampshire Juvenile Court hosted a free "KIDCARE" ID session on Aug. 29 where children were photographed and fingerprinted. The parent of each child was also given a booklet which contained photo and fingerprinting information. The event was sponsored by the Molly Bish "Life Guards" Center and Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge.

Probation Departments in courts throughout the state played a key role in coordinating and hosting activities and events in celebration of National Night Out. Representatives from each of the Middlesex Court divisions were instrumental in setting up and running a community carnival in North Cambridge. Cambridge District Court Probation Officers Ronald Layne and Timothy Kelleher as well

THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The idea for the Professional Development Group — an organization for women probation officers and the men who support their mission — began in 1994 as a simple conversation between then Worcester District Court Probation Officer Nancy Grossman and Marge Brown, former Deputy Commissioner of Research in the Office of the Commissioner of Probation, about the needs of women probation officers.

"We wanted to find a grassroots way to help women probation officers who felt isolated professionally. We also wanted to help women who were looking for new opportunities in the service. Safety issues were also of concern," said Grossman, now a Probation Officer in Charge at the Worcester County

Women's Resource Center and PDG Coordinator since the group's inception.

The PDG began with only five members all based in Worcester County: Heidi Marshall, Worcester District Court Probation Officer; Francyne LeFemine and Donna Quick, both probation officers at the time at Worcester Juvenile Court; and Colleen Trainor, Gardner District Court Assistant Chief Probation Officer. The organization now boasts of 300 members statewide.

"We had no network so we created our own. We work to find positive ways to deal with issues that arise and affect us as women."

Continued to page 5

Continued to page 5

KUDOS COLUMN

Kudos to **Essex County Juvenile Probation Officer Staci Gergely** who was recently recognized by Danvers Police Chief Richard C. Landers for “being both knowledgeable and compassionate in the performance of her duties.”

Three cheers to the **Office of the Commissioner of Probation** employees **Frana Melillo**, administrative assistant in the Communications Department, **Keith Andrews**, Update Clerk II in the Fiscal Department, **Carmine Cardillo**, Administrative Assistant II in the Research and Planning Division, **Robin Ciulla**, Head Administrative Assistant in the Fiscal Department, **Cara Madarese**, Administrative Assistant II in the Fiscal Department, **Thomas Walsh**, Head Administrative Assistant in the Field Services Divisions, and interns Katie Amour, a student at New York University and Kai-idi Dover, a Greater Egleston High School student and Judicial Youth Corps intern who helped coordinate the Massachusetts Probation Services’ first P.O. Recognition Awards ceremony in July.

A special kudos to **Ronald P. Corbett, Jr.**, former Second Deputy Commissioner of Probation, who received the Howard B. Gill Lifetime Achievement Award from the Correctional Association of Massachusetts (CAM).

Bravo **Bristol County Probate and Family Court Assistant Chief Probation Officer Carl Cruz** on your recent appointment to the school’s Board of Trustees.

Congrats to **Dolores Gormley**, a Chief Probation Officer in the Training and Research Division of the Office of Commissioner of Probation, on her recent appointment as a member of the Massachusetts Trial Court’s Gender Equality Advisory Board.

Fabulous job **Bristol County Superior Court Probation Officer** and Southern New England School of Law student **Lourenco A. Lopes Jr.** who was recognized at the 14th Annual Mass Black Judges Conference’s Book Award Ceremony last spring. Lopes was nominated by his school based on his academic achievement, leadership qualities and potential trial skills.

Great job **Essex County Juvenile Court Probation Officer Shirley Murray**. Murray received a Certificate of Appreciation from girls inc. or girls Incorporated of Lynn.

Hats off to you **Northampton Juvenile Probation Officer Susan Maguire** on being the recipient of the Northampton Police Department’s Civilian Service Award. Maguire was recognized for going beyond her duties as a probation officer. Northampton police credited her for helping to disband a local chapter of the Latin Kings, a California-based youth gang.

Bristol Superior Court Chief Probation Officer Eugene A. Monteiro competed in the basketball event at the National Senior Olympic games held in July at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA. The games consisted of men and women 50 years of age and older. Although his team did not receive a medal, the players proved themselves capable opponents. Their record in Louisiana was two wins, two losses.

PROBATION INSIDE

New Bedford District Court Probation Department’s cable television program, Operation Spotlight, resulted in the successful apprehension of about 100 offenders who have violated their probation. The Operation Spotlight cable TV program is the brainchild of Probation Officer **Dave Branco**.

Probation Officers **Kim Howe Lawrence** and **Colleen O’Leary**, both of **Essex Juvenile Court**, participated in Tanqueray’s Northeast AIDS Ride this summer, raising \$5,000. The money will go towards AIDS-related services at major AIDS agencies in the Boston and New York area. Howe Lawrence and O’Leary, who share an office and whose friendship dates back 10 years, were among the 3,000 riders who pedaled the 325-mile trek from Bear Mountain, New York to Boston. Howe Lawrence described the ride as “the hardest thing I’ve ever done but the most powerful.” Said O’Leary, “It was an incredible, indescribable experience.” Both women were inspired by O’Leary’s brother, who is HIV positive. O’Leary’s brother and the women’s colleagues were at the finish line to congratulate them. Howe Lawrence and O’Leary said they were “heartened” by all of the support they received from their colleagues at the Juvenile court and would like to thank each and every one of them.

West Roxbury District Court Chief Probation Officer Anthony Owens sits on the 10-member MBTA (Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority) Racial Profiling Task Force. State Transportation Secretary Kevin Sullivan created the Task Force following a hearing held by the Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus in late May.

Worcester Juvenile Court Probation Department’s Fitchburg office experienced a flood this summer when torrential rain swept most of the northeast. The rainstorm destroyed six of the nine computers in the office as well as probation files. According to Probation Officer Steven McKeown, a river of mud flooded the office, leaving it in 4 1/2 feet of water. “It’s something that you would expect to see in Mississippi not Fitchburg,” said McKeown.

Zygmunt Choroszy, a Middlesex Superior Court Probation Officer, is running for a seat on the School Committee in Newton.

Middlesex Probate and Family Court Assistant Chief Probation Officer Kevin Coughlin and his family were featured in five Quincy billboards promoting the Impact Quincy Underage Anti-Drinking Campaign and Bay State Community Services.

Framingham District Court Probation Officer Lenny McLean has been serving up hot jazz tunes all summer long as the bandleader and keyboardist of the Jazz Quartet, “On Kee.” McLean started the group in the early 1990s. One of the jazz bands members, drummer

Continued to page 7

P.O. Profile: Paula Vizard



Paula Vizard, a 22-year employee of the Massachusetts Probation Service is well known in the court for her work with probationers who are often on the losing end of the battle.

The Suffolk Superior Court Probation Officer was one of nine Probation Officers recognized for her efforts this summer at a Statehouse Ceremony celebrating National Probation Officer Recognition Week, July 15-21.

While many Probation Officers go an extra step in helping the offenders they monitor become productive citizens, Vizard frequently treats the offenders to lunch because some have gone without food. She has brought them clothes when they have had none. She has brought the children of probationers much needed diapers — all with her own money. Vizard helps probationers get new false teeth and glasses. She introduces offenders to AIDS programs, and when the situation calls for it, she gets them into Detox.

On Sundays, a day she is not required to work, she meets with more than 40 probationers, from 9 a.m. to noon, at STEP (Sobriety Treatment Education and Prevention), Inc. in Boston because the offenders are unable to meet with her during the week due to their work schedule or because they are unable to get childcare.

"She is a very caring individual who also voluntarily assists with interpreting information in Spanish," said her manager, Chief Probation Officer Sandy Stillwell.

Vizard wanted to communicate better with probationers and their families and decided several years ago to enroll in Spanish classes at an adult education program in Waltham, where she lives.

She also helps offenders and their families understand the court system.

"Some people are terrified when they come to court. I try to make it a little less horrifying. I just like helping people," she said. "It is important to show that we, as probation officers, care about the people we supervise. And, when a person does not adhere to their conditions of probation, I recommend that the judge send them to jail. But, before they leave to begin their sentence, I tell them I do feel badly. But this is my job. Then I tell them if they need help when they are released, come see me. We part with no hard feelings."

Vizard's involvement with her clients does not stop when the offenders complete their probation. She attends their Fourth of July barbecues and Christmas parties held at the halfway houses and detox centers where she has sent the offenders.

She has supervised probationers from all walks of life. Some are homeless and "at the end of their rope." Vizard has also supervised attorneys who have fallen upon hard times. She has seen a number of success stories. Two former offenders are now directors at halfway houses. A woman offender is now an attorney.

"There are some who people believe will never make it. But I always feel there is hope for everyone," she said. "You can use probation as leverage to save their lives."

Continued from Page 3

Our hallmark is "finding positive solutions. Our organization was established to provide networking, mentoring, and training," added Grossman, who passed the torch as PDG Coordinator to Julie Bennett, a Barnstable Probate and Family Probation Officer and a member of the group's 15-member Steering Committee.

"I am honored to serve as coordinator of the professional development group. The group's history of providing quality programs and statewide networking opportunities will continue as well as supporting our colleagues in ways to enhance their job satisfaction."

The transition officially took place at the PDG's Spring/Summer Meeting on June 7, at Heritage State Park in Lynn. A workshop — "What do you mean you're a Chief Probation Officer, You're a woman!" — was presented by Newburyport District Court Probation Officer Patricia Kane-Thompson, and Marblehead Detective Sergeant Marion Keating served as guest speaker.

"The mission of the organization is to empower women in the Probation Service and to develop to their personal and professional potential; to develop leaders; and to be a resource to the judicial system and the community on issues of importance to women," said Grossman. "We also welcome our brother probation officers who support this mission to join us."

Grossman and Bennett said the organization will meet twice a year instead of quarterly as it has in the past. The group welcomes new members. The next meeting will take place in November. For more information call Bennett at 508-375-6737.

Continued from Page 3

as Middlesex Superior Court Probation Officer Bill Gosman were among the probation employees who volunteered their time to this community effort. Chief Probation Officer Sophia O'Brien was also on hand. **Berkshire Juvenile and Berkshire North Court Probation** staff also participated in National Night Out activities in North Adams. Activities in North Adams featured exhibitions using breathalyzer and test cups. Probation officers also distributed brochures, referrals for batterers and goodies to the children.

QUOTABLES

Quote of the Quarter:
 "Probation is not a slap on the wrist. It is not an alternative to jail. Our job is to change behavior. We do get positive reports. We do have positive results. We do have success stories," said Northern Berkshire District Court Chief Probation Officer Michael Urquhart.

More than 40 probation officers and support staff were featured in newspapers and magazines throughout the state as part of Probation Officer Recognition Week this summer. The positive media coverage of this observance extended from July to October. A booklet, featuring full media coverage of the celebration, was distributed to all Chief Probation Officers throughout the state.

The following is a partial listing of names and the publications they appeared in:

Barnstable Probate and Family Court Probation Officer **Olida Arnoe**, *Sunday Cape Cod Times*, August 26.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, Letter to the Editor, *Sun Chronicle (Attleboro)*, August 16.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, Letter to the Editor, *North Adams Transcript*, August 16.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, Letter to the Editor, *Parkway Transcript*, August 16.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, Letter to the Editor, *West Roxbury Transcript*, August 16.

Uxbridge District Court Probation Officer **Frank Lapriore**, *Blackstone Valley Tribune*, August 15.

Suffolk Superior Court Probation Officer **Paula Vizard**, *The Boston Herald*, August 14. **Vizard**, *Daily News Tribune*, July 5.

Middlesex Juvenile Court Probation Officer **Patty Casey**, *Chelmsford Independent*, August 9.

Malden District Court Support Staff employee **Patricia Ryan**, *Medford Transcript*, August 9.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, Letter to the Editor, *Dracut Dispatch*, August 9.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, Letter to the Editor, *Barnstable Patriot*, August 9.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, **Letter to the Editor**, *Fall River Herald News*, August 8.

Commissioner John J. O'Brien, **Letter to the Editor**, *Lynn Daily Item*, August 7.

Wareham District Court Probation Officer **Gerald Barrows Jr.** and Wareham District Court Support Staff Employee **Ida St. Germaine**, *Wareham Courier*, August 2.

Barrows and St. Germaine, *New Bedford Standard Times*, July 18.

Greenfield District Court Probation Officer **Maureen L. Frazier**, *Longmeadow News*, August.

Stoughton District Court Probation Officer **John Owens**, *Brockton Enterprise*, August 2.

Worcester District Court Probation Officer **Maureen Chamberlain**, *Northboro/Westboro Record*.

Barnstable Juvenile Court Support Staff employee **Beverly Anderson**; Orleans District Court Support Staff employee **Maureen E. Corrigan**; Barnstable Superior Court Probation Officer **Brendan M. Lucey**; and Barnstable Superior Court Probation Support Staff employee **Nancy Capone**, *Cape Cod Times*. **Corrigan**, *Cape Codder*, August 10.

Northern Berkshire District Court Probation Department and its newly appointed Chief Probation Officer **Michael Urquhart** was featured in a June 30 *Berkshire Eagle* newspaper article. The article outlined Urquhart's plans to expand the supervision of probationers and implement new community programs. "This will give us a better community. People will have the expectation that conditions of probation will be enforced. We mean business."

Essex County Probate and Family Court Chief Probation Officer **Mark Juknavorian** was featured in a July 30 *Lynn Daily Item* article, "Can we talk? Mediation helps divorcing couples sort things out." Juknavorian told the *Item* that "roughly 30 to 40 percent of couples who meet with a probation officer are very much at odds with one another."

CASA PROGRAM FIGHTS CHILD ABUSE

By Angela Valasquez

The Suffolk Juvenile Court Probation Department has taken a stand against child abuse and neglect by serving as the only Probation Department in the Commonwealth to run a nationally-known Court-Appointed Special Advocate Program known as CASA.

Launched in 1982 by Judge Francis G. Poitras, Chief Justice of the Juvenile Court Department and presiding judge of the Boston division, the CASA Program selects volunteers for a variety of professional, educational, and ethnic backgrounds in local communities to devote large amounts of time and effort to save up to 300 children each year from getting lost in the shuffle of working cases.

Ensuring all the needs of the child are met including making sure the child is in school and is receiving medical attention, and is in a safe and comfortable environment are among the responsibilities of a CASA worker," Probation Officer and CASA Program Contract Susan Conrad said, describing the program.

After joining the Care and Protection Department at Suffolk Juvenile Court as a Probation Officer, Conrad has worked for the CASA program for the past three years and has seen hundreds of children benefit from the program.

Running training sessions, matching volunteers to cases, and guiding volunteers through the legal process are just a few of the tasks she administers to in the office, along with Probation Officer Lisa Butler, on a day-to-day basis.

Continued to page 7

NEW ARRIVALS/DEATHS

Ellen Winschel, a Salem District Court Probation Officer, and her husband, Daniel, celebrate the birth of their twin girls, Marlana and Sophia, born May 14, 2001.

Christopher Frenier, Northampton District Court Associate Probation Officer, and his wife, Amy, celebrate the birth of their first child, Jack Edward, born on May 12, 2001.

Christopher Moutinho, a Holyoke District Court Associate Probation Officer, and his wife, Shanna, celebrate the birth of their first child, Cole, born May 5, 2001.

Kaya Lopes, a Fall River District Court Associate Probation Officer, is proud to announce the birth of her daughter, Kylee, born April 29, 2001.

Diana Mautner Tighe, Haverhill District Court Assistant Chief Probation Officer, and her husband, Francis, rejoice in the birth of their first child, Olivia Lynn, born April 10, 2001.

Jennifer Mailhot, a PCS IV in the Haverhill District Court Probation Office, and her husband, Michael, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Madeline Frances, born Feb. 23, 2001.

Lucinda Matos-Rodrigues, West Roxbury Probation Officer, and her husband, **Victor Rodrigues**, an Attleboro District Court Probation Officer, celebrate the birth of their son, Dylan Victor, born Jan. 24, 2001.

Continued to page 7

RETIREMENTS

Alfred J. Ferrari, CPO at Cambridge District Court, retired on June 27, 2001 after 35 years of service. He had been a chief probation officer since 1983. "He has been a kind and generous chief and nice to a fault at times," said Assistant Chief Probation Officer William Digregorio.

Tedeedra Healy, Probation Officer at the Worcester County Juvenile Court, retired after 28 years of service in the juvenile court system on June 30th. A party was given in her honor on Friday, June 22, 2001 at Donnelly's Tavern in Lunenburg. "Te's knowledge and experience have been invaluable to all of us. We will miss her for her skills and her quick wit," quoted her co-workers in Fitchburg.

Christina Kerr, a Hampshire Probate and Family Court Probation Officer, retired effective July 31st after 23 years of service. Kerr began her career in probation in June of 1978. She worked in Roxbury Juvenile Court for 14 years before going to Hampshire Probate and Family Court. "Willingness is the first word that comes to mind when thinking of Christina. Her unbelievable willingness to take any case, to work overtime, to cover for a professional peer, or to take on any task that is asked of her, demonstrates her character that is an invaluable asset to the court," said William O'Riordan, Chief Probation Officer.

Phyllis Brown, an Edgartown District Court Probation Office Manager, retired effective Sept. 30, 2001 after 28 years of service.



Commissioner John J. O'Brien and Chief Probation Officers enjoy Statehouse ceremony honoring Massachusetts Probation Service employees. Left to right: Chief Probation Officers Joseph Hassett, Barnstable Superior Court; Edward F. Siudut, Norfolk Superior Court; Probation Commissioner John J. O'Brien; and Joseph Cody, POIC at Norfolk County Community Corrections Center.

The Massachusetts Retired Chief Probation Officers Association met on **Wednesday, Oct. 3**, at Legal Sea Foods in Brookline at noon.

Group members met in June in at the Oxford Restaurant in Marlborough where Ronald P. Corbett, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and former Second Deputy Commissioner of Probation, addressed the group about his role as executive director.

In addition to Corbett's presentation, several newly retired Chief Probation Officers were inducted: Brendan Callahan, Middlesex Probate and Family Court; Raymond Crowley, Springfield Juvenile Court; Ronald D'Arcangelo, Second Essex Amesbury District Court; Hugh Moriarity, Springfield District Court; John Wade, Bristol Juvenile Court; T. William Lewis, North Adams District Court; and Arthur Graham, Somerville District Court.

Continued from Page 4

Darren Fry is a Cambridge police officer. Saxophonist Rasheed Meadows is Dean of Students at Cambridge Rindge and Latin. Newest member Greg Silva, who plays Bass, is the group's only full-time professional musician.

Quincy District Court Associate Probation Officer Christine Johnson returned to her old high school, Milton High School, to participate in the school's annual Career Day.

Congratulations are in order for the recipients of the Trial Court Employee of the Year: **Falmouth District Court Probation Officer Leonora E. Arneson**, **Plymouth District Court Probation Officer Charles R. Benedict**, **East Brookfield District Court Probation Officer John Bish**, **Suffolk County Associate Probation Officer James F. Polin**, and **Boston Municipal Court Probation Case Specialist Theresa Galindez**.



Essex Juvenile Court Probation Officers Kim Howe Lawrence and Colleen O'Leary pose near finish line after completing 325-mile Northeast AIDS Ride this summer. See Inside Probation on Page 4 for story.

CASA

Continued from Page 6

Introduced to the program for the first time when she worked alongside a CASA volunteer in court as a Department of Social Services Social Worker back in 1994, Butler also began work for the Care and Protection Department at Suffolk in 1998.

"This program has had a positive effect on my life. It is definitely a rewarding, different and exciting experience," she said.

Based in Seattle, the National CASA Association was established nearly 25 years ago by Superior Court Judge David Soukup when he obtained funding to recruit and train community volunteers to affirm long-term welfare of children who were being represented in court.

Endorsed by organizations such as the American Bar Association, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and the Delinquency Prevention of the U.S. Department of Justice, the program supervises and trains CASA workers, also known as Guardian ad litem (GAL), to present one to two cases at a time and to dedicate as long as 18 months "to give a voice" to children and ensure that a permanent plan is made in a timely manner.

NEW ARRIVALS/DEATHS

Continued from Page 5

Michael Sylvia, a probation officer at the juvenile courts in Taunton and Fall River, died Aug. 28. Mr. Sylvia leaves his wife, Beth; a son, Timothy of New Bedford; three sisters and several nieces and nephews.

Pamela May (Berry) Griffin, a Malden District Court Probation Officer Manager, died Aug. 28. Ms. Griffin was the wife of the late Martin Griffin Jr. and mother of John Griffin. She was 53.

Joseph Sylvia Jr., a Probation Officer in the New Bedford and Fall River Superior Courts, died Aug. 23. He leaves his daughter, Stephanie Sylvia of Brooklyn, NY and an aunt, Jennie Manning of New Bedford.

Steven Roberts, a Chicopee District Court Probation Officer, died Aug. 8. He leaves his wife, the former Cheryl Rancore; his mother, Ruth Kerr Roberts and a brother, Michael. He was 46.

Mildred Lewis, a retired Central District Court (Worcester) Probation Department employee, died Feb. 14. She was 95.

Community Corrections and Community Service Corner

Probation Commissioner John J. O'Brien along with Stephen V. Price, Executive Director of the Office of Community Corrections, Worcester County Sheriff John M. Flynn, and Honorable Elliot L. Zide, First Justice of the Worcester District Court, were all on hand for the opening of the Worcester Community Corrections Center on Sept. 4.

The center, located at 340 Main Street in Worcester, has the capacity to serve up to 125 probationers, parolees and pre-released offenders from the Worcester County Sheriff's Department.

The Worcester County Women's Center was slated to open Oct. 1. It is the first facility of its kind in the Worcester County area to target women who are chronic substance abusers. The center, housed in the Worcester War Memorial Auditorium at 60 Harvard Street, Worcester will offer a comprehensive, gender-specific approach to substance abuse treatment, rehabilitation, and after-care.

The center will serve 40 female offenders. It is the second such center in the state. The first, the Suffolk County Women's Resource Center, officially opened its doors last spring and was featured in this column.

The Office of Community Service had a very productive summer, according to OCS Statewide Supervisor Kevin Duggan. Offenders spruced up Battleship Massachusetts, the centerpiece of Fall River's waterfront, Battleship Cove. Battleship Massachusetts is one of five National Historic Landmark ships.

In addition to sprucing up the ship, offenders received a history lesson from retired seamen who had served on the ship during World War II. The men, now in their 70s, told of the ship's launching on Sept. 23, 1941, and its nickname, "Big Mamie."

Offenders from the Middlesex Community Corrections Center spruced up a children's park and the local recreation center in Newton.

Community Service workers in Springfield and Springfield District Court Judge Robert F. Kumor Jr. were honored last spring by the Springfield YMCA with a Community Recognition Award for community service work completed by offenders from the Hampden County Community Corrections Center.

Continued from page 3

In addition to the nine probation officers and eight support staff, 43 probation officers and 41 support staff from throughout the state were also honored by Commissioner O'Brien with "Salute Awards." Recipients of the "Salute Awards" received letters of congratulations for a "job well done" from the Commissioner and many were feted by Chief Probation Officers, Assistant Chief Probation Officers and colleagues in their courts.

Are you interested in serving on the P.O. Recognition Committee for Probation Officer Recognition Week 2002? If you are, please call 617-727-5335, ext. 299 or send an email to holland_c@jud.state.ma.us to get more details.



The Probation Journal

The Probation Journal is a quarterly publication of the Massachusetts Probation Service written and edited by Coria Holland in the Communications Office of the Office of the Commissioner of Probation.

The Probation Journal welcomes announcements, story ideas, articles, letters and questions.

Please forward any of the above to:

Coria Holland,
Director of Communications
Office of the
Commissioner of Probation
One Ashburton Place, Room 405
Boston, MA 02108
Telephone: 617-727-5300, ext. 258
Fax: 617-727-0316
e-mail:
holland_c@jud.state.ma.us

PLEASE SEE INSERT FOR LISTING OF "SALUTE AWARD" RECIPIENTS

P.O. Recognition Week 2001

**An informational Fact Sheet on Probation is now available in four different languages in the Communications Department.
The Fact Sheet has been translated into:**

Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Cape Verdean Creole will soon be available.

To order copies, please call 617-727-5335, ext. 299.

Editorial Board: Coria Holland, Frank Campbell, Frana Melillo, Yvonne Spencer and Thomas Walsh